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REMARKS

The above-identified application is United States application serial number 10/785,500 filed on February 23, 2004. Claims 1-9, 11-17, 19-26, 29 and 30 are pending in the application. Claims 1-4, 9, 11-14, 16, 17 and 19-25 are rejected. Claims 5-8 and 15 are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim but allowable if rewritten in independent form to include limitations of the base claim.

Claim Objections

Applicants have amended Claim 11 to address the objection.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being non-statutory. Applicants have amended Claim 22-24 to specify "a tangible computer-readable medium having a program code embodied therein for execution on a controller," limiting subject matter to tangible article of manufacture embodiments. The amended claim thus avoids the issue of application to electromagnetic signals which is irrelevant in the amended claims since program code that is supplied via electromagnetic signals is embodied in a tangible computer-readable medium albeit either local to or remote from the controller.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-4, 9, 11-14, 16-17, 19, and 21-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamagami ('589) in view of Ozdemir (US Patent 6,915,354). Claims 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ozdemir ('354). Applicants have amended the claims, either directly or by dependence, to distinguish over the cited references. The amended claims are allowable at least because Yamagami in view of Ozdemir, and Ozdemir with regard to Claim 20, do not disclose a process and method for "tracking outstanding write tasks, marking transitions in number of outstanding write tasks with task attributes."

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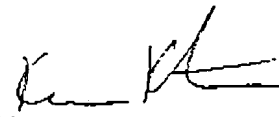
CONCLUSION

The application, including all remaining Claims, is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at (949) 251-0250.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO. Central Number at (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below:

  
(Signature)Joy C. Ngo  
(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)September 27, 2007  
(Date)

Respectfully submitted,

  
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